

9 March 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Travel Proposal

1. As you know, my last visit to Indochina was the trip in October 1970 when I accompanied you on your swing around the Far East. To coin a phrase, time flies. It is now getting on toward a year and a half since I have taken a firsthand look at my parish.

2. Actually, I have been thinking of a trip to the area for quite a while. It seemed to me, however, that it would probably be well to let Tom Polgar get settled in his new duties and get his feet on the ground before he had to cope with stray visitors whose journeys were not all that time linked. Furthermore, I thought it would be a good idea to take a local temperature reading in the spring after the Communists had tried whatever it was they were going to try around TET and the shape of their campaign season achievements, or lack thereof, in Laos had become reasonably discernible.

3. My thoughts on timing are extremely flexible and, of course, subject to your wishes. In general terms, I think it would be wise for me to take a firsthand swing through Indochina -- Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand -- some time around the end of March or the first part of April. It would probably take between two and three weeks of total absence from Headquarters to do what needs doing on such a venture without collapsing in the process. The object of this memorandum is to broach the subject for your consideration and solicit your views or wishes in this matter.


George A. Carver, Jr.

Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

DCI/SAVA/GACarver, Jr./jes

Orig. - Addressee

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1 - Memos To & From DCI

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